Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 19-28, without prejudice or disclaimer, as indicated in the following listing of claims, which replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A process for reflecting a state of a software container having objects, comprising:

cyclically displaying a series of frames reflecting a state of the container as an animated sequence;

detecting an event reflecting a change in the state of the container;

determining based on the detected event whether an animated sequence does not reflect the state of the container; and

updating the cyclical display based on the determination.

2. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the cyclical display provides an intuitive representation of a degree of the change in the state of the container.

3. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the cyclical display reflects the numbers and types of the objects.

4. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the cyclical display embeds audio information in the generated frames.

5. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 2, wherein the cyclical display uses one of color variations, tempo, motion, and change in size to represent the degree of the change in the state of the container.

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6. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 3, wherein the cyclical display uses color variations, tempo, motion, and change in size to reflect the number or type of the objects in the container.

7. (Previously Presented) A computer system comprising:

a memory including a software container and an animated indicator program, the animated indicator program including computer code for monitoring the software container to detect an event reflecting a change in a state of the container, for determining based on the detected event whether an animated sequence does not reflect the state of the container, and for generating a series of frames to reflect a state of the container based on the determination;

a display on which a series of frames is cyclically displayed in an animated sequence; and

a processor configured to execute programs in the memory.

8. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 7, wherein the cyclical display provides an intuitive representation of a degree of the change in the state of the container.

9. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 7, wherein the cyclical display reflects the number and type of objects of the container.

10. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 7, wherein the animated indicator program further includes computer code for embedding audio information in the generated frames.

11. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 8, wherein the animated indicator program further includes computer code for using one of color variations, tempo, change in size, and motion to represent the degree of the change in the state of the container.

12. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 9, wherein the animated indicator program further includes computer code for using color variations, tempo, change in size, and motion to reflect the number or type of the objects in the container.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium containing instructions executable on a computer, the instructions when executed on the computer performing the steps of:

cyclically displaying a series of frames in an animated sequence such that the animated sequence reflects a state of a software container;

detecting an event reflecting a change in the state of the container;

determining based on the detected event whether an animated sequence does not reflect the state of the container; and

updating the cyclical display based on the determination.

14. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions for the cyclical display cause the cyclical display to provide an intuitive representation of a degree of the change in the state of the container.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions for the cyclical display cause the cyclical display to reflect the number and type of objects of in the container.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 13, further including instructions for embedding audio information in the cyclical display.

17. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 14, further including instructions for using one of color variations, tempo, motion, and change in size to represent the degree of the change in the state of the container.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 15, further including instructions for using one of color variations, tempo, motion, and change in size to reflect the number or type of objects in the container.

Claims 19-28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein the frames include characteristics that are symbolic of objects of the container.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 7, wherein the frames include characteristics that are symbolic of objects of the container.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein the frames include characteristics that are symbolic of objects of the container.

32. (Previously Presented) A process for reflecting a state of a software container having objects, comprising:

cyclically displaying a series of frames reflecting a state of the container as an animated sequence;

detecting an event reflecting a change in the state of the container, wherein the container is a web page related to user discussion;

E1 determining based on the detected event whether an animated sequence does not reflect the state of the container; and

updating the cyclical display based on the determination.